

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 10 as follows:

In this arrangement, terminals connected to the same LAN mutually and directly communicate not through the packet transferring apparatus. For example, terminals 11 and 13 connected to ~~an~~ a LAN1 can communicate mutually and directly by transmitting/receiving a packet through the LAN1.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 13 as follows:

The priority control processor 111 retrieves the priority control table 110 based on the field values within the packet header and the transmitting/receiving interface Nos. of the received packet. When the received packet conforms with a specific entry, the priority degree ~~and the packet~~ stored in that entry and the packet are transferred to the next processor of a switch portion 112.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 27 as follows:

On the other hand, when the communication form comprises the UDP communication, the session establishment managing table may include a ~~UDP~~ UDP session establishment data table which holds bit patterns of a part of an application data portion following a UDP packet header, and the session establishment managing processor may retrieve the session establishment table and the UDP session establishment data table to perform the (determination for) session establishment.

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at page 21, line 20 as follows:

Namely, in order to execute this transfer process, according to the network management policy “The transfer process is performed with high priority to the telnet communication in which the terminal group belonging to the LAN1 has called the terminal group belonging to the LAN6.”, the network manager preliminarily stores in the session establishment managing table 123 through the priority control software 103, an entry whose protocol No. is TCP, source IP address is 192.168.10.0 (mask value 255.255.255.0), destination IP address is 192.168.60.0 (mask value 255.255.255.0), destination port No. is 23 (indicates the telnet communication), and “priority degree/transfer” field is 7 (high priority), as shown in the session establishment condition 801 and the corresponding mask data ~~802~~ 805 of Fig. 5.

On the other hand, SYN bit of a code bit (another name CTR (control) flag) for the TCP packet format shown in Fig. 13 is set in the packet at the beginning of the session establishment until the session of the TCP communication is established on the specification of the TCP communication. Therefore, the SYN bit will be hereinafter referred to as CTR. The session establishment managing processor 124 retrieves the session establishment managing table 123 with the code bit being made a trigger to determine whether or not the packet ② conforms with or hits the entry of the session establishment condition 801 and the corresponding mask data ~~802~~ 805.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 14 as follows:

The session establishment managing processor 124 requests the session management processor 122 based on the determination that there has been found a conformed entry to

transfer the subsequent packets ③ and ④ with a higher priority following ~~than~~ the packet ② and to prepare the entry for identifying the packets ③ and ④.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 31 as follows:

Namely, when receiving the packet ③, the session management processor 122 retrieves the session management table 121 ~~123~~. This procedure corresponds to steps S21 and S22 in the flow chart of the session management processor 122 shown in FIG. 8.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 25 as follows:

This is because the session management processor 122 dynamically adds entries to the session management table 121 shown in FIG. 6 depending on the session establishment condition of the session establishment managing table 123 ~~124~~ shown in FIG. 5 every time the inter-terminal communication across the packet transferring apparatus 100 begins so that the number of the entries may exceed the capacity of the table 121 during the operation of the packet transferring apparatus without an adequate deletion of some entries.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 7 as follows:

Accordingly, a bit pattern of a part of an application data portion following the UDP header is stored as a UDP session establishment data table (FIG. 5C) and the corresponding mask data table (Fig. 5D) within the session establishment managing table 123 ~~124~~ so that the packet transferring apparatus 100 may identify a Request packet which starts the session per individual application communicated on the UDP, i.e., per each destination port No. of the UDP.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 29 as follows:

When the packet transferring apparatus 100 receives the packet ②, the session establishment managing processor 124 retrieves the session establishment managing processing table 123. As a result, the packet 2 is hit by a session establishment condition entry 806 common to a session establishment condition entry 802 whose protocol No. = UDP, destination port No. = 53, and receiving interface No. = interface IF1 which the security control software 102 has preliminarily prepared in the session establishment condition table, a session establishment condition entry 803 whose receiving interface No. = interface IF2 prepared in the same way, or a session establishment condition entry 804 whose receiving interface No. = IF3 prepared in the same way. This corresponds to steps S12 and S13 in the flow chart shown in Fig. 7.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 29 as follows:

When the packet transferring apparatus 100 receives the packet 2, the session establishment managing processor 124 retrieves the session establishment managing processing table 123. As a result, the packet 2 is hit by a session establishment condition entry 802 ~~806~~ common to a session establishment condition entry condition 802 whose protocol No. = UDP, destination port No. = 53, and receiving interface No. = interface IF 1 which the security control software 102 has preliminarily prepared in the session establishment condition table, a session establishment condition entry 803 whose receiving interface No. = interface IF2 prepared in the same way, or a session establishment condition entry 804 whose receiving interface No. = IF3 prepared in the same way. This corresponds to steps S12 and S13 in the flow chart shown in Fig. 7.